

Investment in Public Sector Undertakings

5681. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total investment in Central public sector enterprises as on 31.3.1991;

(b) their total working capital on the same date;

(c) the total outstanding loan, domes-

tic and foreign as on that date;

(d) the total remittances to foreign countries during 1991-92, on account of principal and interest on foreign loans as well as payment of royalty and service charges, if any; and

(e) the total net profit during 1991-92 by these undertakings? *

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) to (c). The information as on 31-3-91 is given below:—

(Rs in crores)

Total Investment	Rs. 113233.68
Total Working Capital	Rs. 40666.04
Loans outstanding:—	
— Domestic	Rs. 52598.03
— Foreign	Rs. 17601.24
— Total	Rs. 70199.27

(d) Loan repayment to foreign parties during 1990-91 upto which period only the information is available amounted to Rs. 1883 crores whereas interest on foreign loans amounted to Rs. 1338.60 crores and Rs. 245.18 crores were paid as royalty and service charges during this period.

(e) During 1990-91 upto which period only the information is available, Central PSEs earned a net profit of Rs. 2367.74 crores.

[Translation]

Mining of Uranium

5682. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether huge deposits of uranium have been discovered in the Western Khasi hills region of Shillong;

(b) whether mining operations were stopped following public protest;

(c) whether the mining of uranium is essential for meeting the requirements of the country; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to continue the mining of uranium and the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Experimental mining has been started to carry out ore amenability studies on pilot plant scale. Following a resolution passed by the Khasi Hills autonomous District Council, notice has been served on the Department to stop further work in the area. Since experimental mining operations were undertaken after obtaining necessary permission from the Khasi Hills District Council, the matter is being taken up with them so that pilot, plant studies can be completed.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Mining of Uranium on commercial scale will be taken up after preparation of Detailed Project Report and project sanction. Present activities are in connection with the collection of data for the preparation of a technical feasibility report for the project. The matter is being taken up with the Khasi Hills autonomous District Council and the Government of Meghalaya.

Irregularities in Super Bazar

5683. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any memorandum from some Institutions/Organisations/individuals/trade unions regarding a probe into the alleged irregularities being committed in the branches of Super Bazar located in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the action taken so far by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the details of the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir; Govt. and Super Bazar Management have been receiving complaints from Institutions/Organisations/individuals regarding irregularities being committed in some branches by some unscrupulous employees. The nature of the complaints are generally regarding black-marketing in palmolein, pilferage and shortage in goods, overcharging of customers, non-rendering of complete and full account of Bardana supplies to the branches; selling goods without cash memos, discourteous behaviour with customers etc. A full-fledged vigilance Department under the charge of the Vigilance Officer is functioning in Super Bazar and immediate steps are taken to investigate the complaint and strict action in the shape of Departmental inquiries is taken against erring employees.

[English]

Misuse of Ration Cards

5684. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO:
SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to obviate the misuse of ration cards;

(b) the percentage of rice and wheat which remains unsold by PDS outlets because of unused ration cards;

(c) whether unsold rice and wheat are being manipulated by the Public Distribution System outlets; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check this menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE